

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 9 to read as follows:

9. (Once Amended) A method for reducing ventricular volume, comprising:

B1 inserting a flexible catheter into a ventricle of a patient's heart;

deploying a cardiac insert or implant from a leading end of said catheter; and

disposing said cardiac insert or implant in the patient's heart to reduce the volume of at least one ventricle of the patient's heart.

✓  
Cancel claims 13-18.

Amend claim 19 to read as follows:

B2 19. (Once Amended) The method defined in claim 9 wherein said catheter is inserted into the patient through the vascular system of the patient.

Add the following new claims:

20. A method for reducing ventricular volume, comprising:

inserting a catheter into a ventricle of a patient's heart;

B3 deploying a cardiac insert or implant from a leading end of said catheter while said leading end is disposed in the patient's heart; and

disposing said cardiac insert or implant in the patient's heart to reduce the volume of at least one ventricle of the patient's heart.

21. The method defined in claim 20 wherein said cardiac insert or implant is a tensile member, further comprising attaching said tensile member to the patient's heart, and exerting tension on said tensile member to draw walls of the patient's heart towards one another.

22. The method defined in claim 21 wherein said tensile member is provided with at least one barb at a leading end, the attaching of said tensile member to the patient's heart including embedding said barb in the patient's heart.

B<sup>3</sup> 23. The method defined in claim 21 wherein said tensile member is one of two tensile members, further comprising attaching the other tensile member to the patient's heart, the exerting of tension on said one of said tensile members including twisting the tensile members about one another.

24. The method defined in claim 20 wherein said catheter is inserted into the patient through the vascular system of the patient.

25. A method for reducing ventricular volume, comprising:  
inserting a catheter through a patient's vascular system into a ventricle of the patient's heart;  
deploying a cardiac insert or implant from a leading end of said catheter; and